

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An ~~A~~ apparatus for concurrently injecting a fluid from a hollow needle into body tissue during insertion of the needle into the body tissue, the apparatus comprising:

a ~~the~~ hollow needle; and

a fluid delivery means;

~~wherein the apparatus is adapted to actuate the fluid delivery means in use so as to concurrently inject fluid into body tissue during insertion of the needle into the said body tissue.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fluid delivery means is adapted to automatically inject fluid into body tissue during insertion.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising needle insertion means for guiding insertion of the needle into the body tissue.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ apparatus as claimed in any of claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising means for sensing when the needle has been inserted to a sufficient depth for injection of the fluid to commence.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ apparatus as claimed in any of claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising means for presetting the depth to which the needle is inserted prior to injection of the fluid being commenced.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the sensing means comprises an ultrasound probe.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the sensing means comprises means for sensing a change in impedance or resistance.

8. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising:

- a base for supporting the needle; and
- a housing for receiving the base therein,

wherein the base is moveable relative to the housing such that the needle is retracted relative to the housing when the base is in a first rearward position relative to the housing and the needle extends outwardly from the housing when the base is in a second forward position within the housing.

9. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the fluid delivery means comprise piston driving means adapted to inject fluid at a controlled rate.

10. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the piston driving means are actuated by the base being moved in the axial direction relative to the housing.

11. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claims 9, wherein the piston driving means are motorised.

12. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a sensor for sensing that insertion of the needle has commenced and actuating the piston driving means.

13. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a control mechanism for controlling the rate at which fluid is injected via the motorised piston driving means.

14. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a sensor for sensing relative movement between the base and the housing.

15. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising means for applying a voltage to the needle.

16. (Currently Amended) The A apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising means for recording the identity of the subject to be treated and data from a treatment process.

17. (Original) A fluid dispense vessel for use in the apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein a bar-code is provided on the vessel to identify the contents thereof.

18-28. Cancelled